



Piedmont American Indian Association
Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation of SC
3688 Warrior Creek Church Road
Gray Court, SC 29645
864-683-1421

August 31, 2018

Dear Honorable Chief Leon Locklear,

I am writing this letter of recommendation to encourage the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs to recognize the Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina in Maxton, North Carolina as a historical American Indian Tribe of North Carolina.

I can attest that for many years the late Chief Gene Norris of the Piedmont American Indian Association Lower Eastern Cherokee Nation SC worked with and along side of Chief Leon Locklear, personally attending Ceremonies in the Tuscarora Longhouse and Pow Wows. I for many years was Vice Chief under Chief Gene Norris and upon his passing in May of 2017, I became Chief.

Chief Norris talked very highly of Chief Locklear and I myself have met with him on numerous occasions and find him to be an honorable man who works hard for his people and is proud of his tribe and his people. The Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina and their Tuscarora Ancestors have given much and are still giving to the establishment of not only the State of North Carolina but to the United States of America.

The Tuscarora people as well as their Tuscarora Ancestors still continue today, 2018, to exist as Indigenous People of the United States for over 200 years. The Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina have continued to be a distinctive tribal community since Tuscarora land was obtained from King George II in 1753.

History tells us the whole story with facts that the Tuscarora legacy must be protected, or this country, the state of North Carolina and the Native American Communities, risk losing a great legacy. Therefore, I urge and strongly recommend that the State of North Carolina, acknowledge and recognize the Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina as an official state recognized Tribal Nation.

Sincerely,

Chief Mary Louise Worthy

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